

community. Among many other achievements and activities, Mr. Niemann was co-chair of the NVUSD Educational Plan Committee for the new American Canyon High School from 2005–2006. He also coordinated National History Day for Napa County Schools, with more than 2,000 students participating annually from 2000–2004. Mr. Niemann has reached out to get others involved, serving as a delegation leader for the “People to People” Student Ambassador Program. The program attracted participants from Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, and Australia. He has been a mentor teacher, track coach, and has always made himself available after hours to work with parent volunteers.

Mr. Niemann strives to not just teach history, but to experience it. He has traveled to 49 countries on six continents. He has consulted with educators and observed schools in Mexico, Fiji, Russia, Germany, Japan, Central America, South Africa, India, Kenya, Thailand, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Richard R. Niemann for his many years of service to the Napa Valley, and to thank him for his contributions to the community. I join his wife, Marsha, his children, and our colleagues in wishing him the best as he enters this new phase of his life.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL
MICHAEL L. BARTLEY**

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Colonel Michael L. Bartley by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Colonel Bartley for his distinguished service to the United States Air Force and his exemplary record as Commander of the 99th Base Wing at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

Colonel Bartley has had a long and illustrious career as an airman. Having graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in June 1983, Colonel Bartley distinguished himself in his early duty assignments as an A/OA-10 and F-16 instructor pilot. He also performed duties as a weapons officer, flight evaluator, flight commander, assistant operations officer, deployment commander, and served as a member of the 354 TFW Gunsmoke team in 1987.

During Operation Desert Storm, Colonel Bartley flew over 40 combat missions over Iraq in the OA-10 and flew 65 combat missions over Northern Iraq in the F-16C during Operation Provide Comfort and over Southern Iraq during Operation Southern Watch as the Operations Officer of the 523rd Fighter Squadron. Following his tenure in the Middle East, Colonel Bartley served as Vice Commander of the 35th Fighter Wing at Misawa Air Base, Japan and was subsequently assigned to serve as the Commander of the 99th Air Base Wing at Nellis.

Over the course of his career as an airman, Colonel Bartley has been highly decorated.

Colonel Bartley has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor, the Meritorious Service Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with 6 oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award and numerous other accolades and awards.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to be able to recognize Colonel Michael L. Bartley. His dedication to defending freedom and his exemplary record of service illustrate that Colonel Bartley is a true American patriot. I thank him for his service, applaud him on all his successes and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

**THE 52ND REUNION OF THE U.S.
AIR FORCE'S 4080TH STRATEGIC
RECONNAISSANCE WING**

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, recently in Del Rio, Texas, the veterans of the U.S. Air Force's 4080th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing held their 52nd and final reunion.

I am proud to say that many of Minnesota's finest have served in this distinguished outfit, including the man who shared with me their incredible achievements, Minnesota native Jim Wemple, Airman 2nd Class, who joined the unit the year it was formed, 1956.

The 4080th is one of the most distinguished units in the great history of the American armed services. In fact, it holds the distinct honor of being the highest decorated unit in the Air Force during peace time. The unit has received a Presidential citation, and its members have been awarded the highest honors afforded by the military, including the Silver Star and the Medal of Honor.

With skill and courage, the 4080th flew critical recon missions time and again, including many daring missions during the Cold War. Their efforts and sacrifices averted conflicts, saved lives and secured peace.

The brave patriots who served in this unit have played a pivotal role in many of the defining events of the 20th Century. With courage and dignity, they put their lives on the line to defend our flag and our freedoms and these men truly deserve our undying gratitude.

And so it is my honor to recognize and pay tribute to the all the men of the 4080th Recon Wing. We must always hold the American serviceman in our hearts, for, as General MacArthur said, they hold America's destiny in their hands.

**HONORING ALWARD AND HENRY
MEEKER POST 2833 AND LADIES
AUXILIARY, VETERANS OF FOR-
EIGN WARS**

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Alward and Henry Meeker Post 2833 and the Ladies Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Kenvil, Township of

Roxbury, County of Morris, New Jersey, as we commemorate the Post's 75th Anniversary.

VFW Post 2833 was formed during the winter months of 1932 and 1933 in a road stand which is now the office of the Kingtown Mountain Motel. Twenty-one other charter members were recruited by Frank Van Houten, a Spanish American War veteran, after his move from Paterson, New Jersey to Netcong. Mr. Van Houten was previously a member of the Alexander Hamilton VFW Post 139, Paterson. Netcong had already formed a post a year earlier, but Mr. Van Houten and his recruits from the Netcong/Succasunna area sought to establish their own Post.

The Post was named in remembrance of two brothers, Private Alward Wilson Meeker and Private Henry Fordham Meeker Jr., who both died during World War I. The brothers were sons of Henry F. and Charlotte H. Meeker, who operated a general store on Main Street in Kenvil. On Flag Day, June 14, 1933, the A & H Meeker VFW Post officially was chartered with Frank Van Houten as its first Commander. The Ladies Auxiliary was chartered on October 13, 1933. Ruth Hart was its first President.

On January 12, 1935, Post charter member John Kasweck and Auxiliary charter member Margaret Kasweck deeded land for the new Post home. The members signed for a bank loan to cover the cost of building materials and held fundraisers and dances to pay off the debt. The loan was repaid by the early 1940s, so by the end of World War II, returning veterans had an established post to join.

In the late 1960's a merger took place between Alward & Henry Meeker 2833 and Roxbury Memorial Post 10135, including the Ladies Auxiliaries. The Post retained its name.

During 1988 additions were completed for the Post building, and land was purchased for a parking lot. The flag pole was moved to its present position at the Post building. Sidewalks and wheelchair access were also added, but funds fell short, and loans were once again given by members. In the 1990's the Post and Auxiliary joined forces, sponsoring spaghetti dinners to meet the obligation of these loans.

Today, the Post celebrates its 75th anniversary. The members take pride in all the service they have provided to our veterans and the community of Roxbury Township over many years.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to honor the Alward and Henry Meeker Post 2833 and the Ladies Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars. I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of this valuable, dedicated organization for their seventy-five years of service!

**IN HONOR OF THE STUDENT
GRADUATES OF SADDLE RIVER'S
YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Madam Speaker, today, the Saddle River Police Department will hold its Youth Leadership Program graduation ceremony with the students of the Wandell School. The young people participating in this important program have made